

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS



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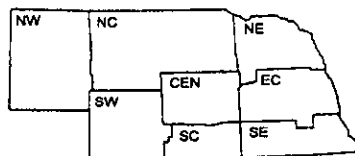
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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l Statistics
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WEATHER

Temperatures across Nebraska averaged from one to four degrees above normals for the week. Only traces of precipitation were reported across the State for the week.

GENERAL

Harvest progressed rapidly and was the main priority of producers due to the dry weather conditions, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Most activities on the farms involved harvesting crops followed by fall tillage. In parts of Southern and Eastern Counties, wheat was showing poor emergence due to the lack of moisture. But, in Northwestern Counties, wheat was being seeded back into stubble with adequate soil moisture. However, in other counties, soil moisture supplies were very short with any rain being welcomed at this point. Harvest storage, in the west, was tight at some elevators due to shortage of rail cars and the bumper spring crop yields. A few elevators had temporarily stopped taking grain because they were full. Additional producer activities included working their herds (health, weaning, etc.), fencing for the winter, and discing.

CROPS

Corn harvest had passed the half-way mark at 53%, behind 60% last year, but over a week ahead the 37% average.

CROPS (Cont.)

Soybean harvest jumped to 88%, seven days above 74% last year, and average.

Sorghum mature was at 90%, below 100% last year and 97% average. Harvest rated 37% complete, behind 54% last year, and 43% average.

Dry beans harvest was near completion at 98%, ahead of 95% last year, but same as average.

Alfalfa conditions rated 3% very poor, 13% poor, 42% fair, 39% good, and 3% excellent. Alfalfa fourth cutting was at 95% complete, compared to 93% last year, and 88% average.

Wheat seeded rated 99%, barely above 98% last year, but same as average. Wheat was 89% emerged, same as last year, but slightly behind the 90% average. Record low temperatures recorded Sunday morning were expected to have minimal effect on the crop.

Proso Millet harvest was 88% complete.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range conditions rated 7% very poor, 16% poor, 36% fair, 38% good, and 3% excellent. Conditions remained excellent for livestock with harvested fields opening up for fall grazing. Some livestock were being moved to corn stalks. Rain was needed to settle dust in feedlots. Calves were being moved off grass to feedlots.

CROP PROGRESS AS OF OCTOBER 17, 1999		AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
		NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Soybeans Harvested		n/a	86	90	87	89	93	93	85	88	64	74	74
% Corn Harvested		20	47	57	49	58	24	66	57	53	32	60	37
% Sorghum Mature		n/a	100	100	99	98	100	99	87	90	87	100	97
% Sorghum Harvested		n/a	30	80	54	30	32	24	43	37	21	54	43
% Dry Beans Harvested		98	100	n/a	n/a	n/a	99	n/a	n/a	98	97	95	98
% Proso Millet Harvested		86	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	95	n/a	n/a	88	79	n/a	n/a
% Alfalfa Fourth Cutting		95	88	95	97	94	99	98	92	95	91	93	88
% Wheat Seeded		99	100	100	100	100	100	99	96	99	97	98	99
% Wheat Emerged		94	92	85	79	52	94	89	52	89	79	89	90
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF OCTOBER 15, 1999													
Days suitable		70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	69	63	
Topsoil moisture	- Very Short	1	22	44	7	12	3	25	67	26	21	2	
(Percent)	- Short	20	37	51	67	63	23	57	27	44	40	17	
	- Adequate	79	41	5	25	25	71	18	6	30	38	80	
	- Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	1	
Subsoil moisture	- Very Short	0	18	39	7	9	4	16	59	21	12	5	
(Percent)	- Short	8	34	39	47	51	19	42	35	36	35	22	
	- Adequate	92	48	22	45	40	77	42	7	43	53	72	
	- Surplus	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	

n/a = not available.

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